

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-9, 11, 15, 17-18 and 20-22 are canceled. Claims 6, 10, 12-13, 16, 19, 23 and 25 are pending. Claims 6, 12,13, 16, 19, 23 and 25 have been amended to change dependency, clarify antecedent basis, and to rewrite Claim 23 in independent form. No new matter is added. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections, and allow claims 6, 10, 12-13, 16, 19, 23 and 25.

Amendments to the Brief Description of the Drawings are made herewith. Specific reference is made to the provisional application for which the present application claims priority. The present application was filed prior to November 29, 2000, and thus does not fall within the time limits set by 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and (a)(5)(ii).

Claims 10 and 23 are allowed. The claims have been amended such that all pending claims are dependent upon either Claim 10, or Claim 23. Thus, each claim requires that the specific polynucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:12 be present.

The antecedent basis of the term "said RNA" in Claims 6 and 19 have been corrected. Claims 12 and 25 have been amended to clarify the sequences present in the composition.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number BERK-005.

Respectfully submitted,
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